

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1-3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (Previously added) A method for making a stent having a geometric shape comprising:

providing a metal sheet;
rolling said sheet within a pressurized roller to create a textured surface; and
cutting a geometric shape into said textured surface.

Claim 5 (Previously added) The method of claim 4 wherein same stent comprises:

B, a generally cylindrical device having a plurality of struts arranged in a circumferential fashion around said cylinder, said cylinder having a generally longitudinal axis, a radial dimension extending from said longitudinal axis, and a circumferential dimension extending around said axis, and said struts interconnected with one another;

said struts having a length, and said stent capable of being expanded from a first diameter to a second expanded diameter;

said struts having a cross-section comprising a width in said circumferential dimension and a thickness in said radial dimension;

and said strut thicknesses variable along their lengths.

Claim 6 (Currently amended) The ~~stent~~ method of claim 4 wherein said stent is used in combination with a balloon catheter.

Claim 7 (Currently amended) The ~~stent~~ method of claim 4 wherein said stent is self-expanding.

Claim 8 (Currently amended) A ~~stent~~ method as in claim 4 wherein (said variable strut thickness) is varied along the length of the strut so that said strut is thicker at its ends than in its middle.

Claim 9 (Currently amended) The ~~stent~~ method of claim 4 wherein (said struts) are configured so that there are portions of relative thickness and relative thinness along the length of the stent, and said portions of relative thickness are ~~interspersed~~ interspersed between said portions of relative thinness.

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Claim 10 (Currently amended) The ~~stent~~ method of claim 4 wherein the stent has a portion of relative thickness at one of (said ends), and a portion of relative thinness at a second of (said ends).
